

Background The Alps are particularly affected by climate change. Temperatures in this region increased at more than twice the global average rate in the last century, and further warming is already unavoidable. Consequences may include thawing of permafrost, melting glaciers and extreme events

such as heavy precipitation and long periods of drought. Climate change will bring major changes to your economy, environment and society. Adverse consequences can be reduced or avoided, and future development potential safeguarded, through adaptation. It's time to take action now!



Photo © Angelina S. / pixelio.de

General

Energy

Health

Spatial
Planning

Biodiversity

Natural
Hazard

Agriculture

Water

Forestry

Tourism

Health

WHY?

Weather and climate play a significant role in people's health. Warmer temperatures and heat waves could increase the number of heat-related illnesses. Extreme weather events such as storms or floods can cause direct threats to people and infrastructure. Another important threat to health is changes in the incidence of diseases transmitted by insects, or changes in water and air quality. Therefore communities' public health and safety systems have to be adapted to changing circumstances.

Raise awareness and build knowledge within society

- Enhance knowledge about how to handle infectious diseases
- Raise awareness of general public about health risks

HOW?

Prepare health spaces for a change in climate

- Emergency services: The positioning of emergency service stations will be out of the flood zone and well protected against surface water flooding, to ensure they can operate in a flood.
- Trees for shade: Providing natural shading for workers and residents and helping to cool the urban heat island effect

Enhance monitoring- and early warning systems

- Manage risks concerning increasing numbers of allergen and poisonous species
- Create a "Health-Climate" monitoring group





RESEARCH PROJEKT V.E.I.T.

The project investigated in the presence and distribution of disease vectors (insects, ticks) and infectious agents (viruses and bacteria) in the study area and built a registry of disease incidence for vector borne diseases. The project showed that a cooperation between different stakeholders like the health-care sector, public health and experts from the ecological sector leads to success. [Further information \(de\)](#)



STOPHOT

This project deals with challenge of “Cool towns for the elderly – protecting the health of elderly residents against urban heat”. It is singular in also seeking to include the elderly as a highly susceptible group as active contributors in the project. Their needs, wants and perceptions were collected by questionnaires and intensive personal interviews. It brought together experts from the University of Vienna, the Vienna Medical University, the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences in Vienna and the University of Applied Sciences in Fulda in addition to social and health care workers and employees of the city of Vienna. [Further information \(de\)](#)

WHO?

You can take action now!

Together with

- National and regional administration
- Researchers and experts on climate change adaptation
- Civil society organizations such as NGOs
- Entrepreneurs



Download
this factsheet
and share it

Service Further measures, tools, practical examples and information on how to adapt to climate change can be found at www.c3alps.eu/kip

Contact Environment Agency Austria
Dept. Environmental Impact Assessment and Climate Change
c3-alps@umweltbundesamt.at

This Factsheet has been produced by CIPRA International
international@cipra.org

funding programme



 **Handwerkskammer
für München und Oberbayern**

 **CIPRA
LIVING IN
THE ALPS**

About C3-Alps The C3-Alps initiative is conducted by a transnational consortium of 17 partners from all Alpine countries. The partnership combines authorities responsible for climate adaptation policies on national and regional levels and expert institu-

tions that support national and European adaptation strategies. C3-Alps is coordinated by the Environment Agency Austria and is co-funded by the Alpine Space programme, through the European Regional Development Fund – European Territorial Cooperation.